

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A fluid delivery device for a printing machine comprising:
a rotating roller having a roller surface with a roller radius of curvature, the roller surface carrying a fluid film; and
a metering element having an edge for splitting the fluid film and a first concave surface facing the roller surface;
the metering element being movable with respect to the roller surface so that the edge moves along a radial line from a center of the rotating roller.

Claim 2 (original): The device as recited in claim 1 wherein the metering element has a second concave surface opposite the first concave surface.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The device as recited in claim 1 wherein the first concave surface has a radius of curvature similar to that of the roller radius of curvature.

Claim 4 (original): The device as recited in claim 1 wherein the first concave surface corresponds to an arc of 10 degrees or more of the roller surface.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The device as recited in claim 1 wherein the metering element is rigid.

Claim 6 (original): The device as recited in claim 1 wherein the metering element has a horizontal bottom surface.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The device as recited in claim 14 ~~claim 1~~ wherein the metering element has an edge movable radially along a line from a radial center of ~~with respect to the~~

roller.

Claim 8 (original): The device as recited in claim 1 wherein the fluid is ink.

Claim 9 (original): The device as recited in claim 1 wherein a thickness of the fluid film downstream from the metering element is half of an average distance of the concave surface from the roller surface.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A method for metering fluid in a printing press having an operating speed comprising the steps of:
supplying fluid to a supply container, the supply container being unpressurized;
rotating a roller to contact the fluid in the supply container so as to form a film of the fluid on a surface of the roller; and
splitting the film using a metering element, the metering element having a concave surface facing the surface of the roller.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A method for metering fluid in a printing press having an operating speed comprising the steps of:
supplying fluid to a supply container;
rotating a roller so as to form a film of the fluid on a surface of the roller; and
splitting the film using a metering element, the metering element having a concave surface facing the surface of the roller;
~~The method as recited in claim 10~~ wherein the roller has a surface speed similar to that of a plate or image cylinder of the printing press.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A method for metering fluid in a printing press having an operating speed comprising the steps of:
supplying fluid to a supply container;
rotating a roller so as to form a film of the fluid on a surface of the roller; and
splitting the film using a metering element, the metering element having a concave surface facing the surface of the roller;

~~The method as recited in claim 10~~ wherein metering element has an edge movable solely in a radial direction ~~radially~~ with respect to the roller.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method as recited in claim 12 ~~claim 11~~ further comprising setting a distance between the concave surface and the surface of the roller.

Claim 14 (new): A fluid delivery device for a printing machine comprising:
a rotating roller having a roller surface with a roller radius of curvature, the roller surface carrying a fluid film; and
a metering element having an edge for splitting the fluid film and a first concave surface facing the roller surface;
the metering element being movable with respect to the roller surface;
wherein the metering element has a second concave surface opposite the first concave surface.

Claim 15 (new): A fluid delivery device for a printing machine comprising:
a rotating roller having a roller surface with a roller radius of curvature, the roller surface carrying a fluid film; and
a metering element having an edge for splitting the fluid film and a first concave surface facing the roller surface;
the metering element being movable with respect to the roller surface;
wherein the first concave surface has a radius of curvature similar to that of the roller radius of curvature.

Claim 16 (new): A fluid delivery device for a printing machine comprising:
a rotating roller having a roller surface with a roller radius of curvature, the roller surface carrying a fluid film; and
a metering element having an edge for splitting the fluid film and a first concave surface facing the roller surface;
the metering element being movable with respect to the roller surface;
wherein the first concave surface corresponds to an arc of 10 degrees or more of

the roller surface.

Claim 17 (new): A fluid delivery device for a printing machine comprising:

a rotating roller having a roller surface with a roller radius of curvature, the roller surface carrying a fluid film; and

a metering element having an edge for splitting the fluid film and a first concave surface facing the roller surface;

the metering element being movable with respect to the roller surface;

wherein a thickness of the fluid film downstream from the metering element is half of an average distance of the concave surface from the roller surface.

Claim 18 (new): The fluid delivery device as recited in claim 1 further comprising a reducer roll interacting with the rotating roller.

Claim 19 (new): The method as recited in claim 10 wherein the first concave surface has a radius of curvature similar to that of the roller radius of curvature.

Claim 20 (new): The method as recited in claim 12 wherein the first concave surface has a radius of curvature similar to that of the roller radius of curvature.